Writing simple sentences in English

Sentences with adjectives

Subject + be + adjective

In this pattern we use an adjective to describe the subject of a sentence.

- He is intelligent.
- She is beautiful.
- It is easy.
- We are happy.

Note that we cannot use articles before an adjective. However, if the adjective is followed by a singular noun we have to use an article or another determiner.

- She is a beautiful girl. (NOT She is beautiful girl.)
- It was a difficult situation. (NOT It was difficult situation.)
- He is a dangerous criminal. OR He is dangerous.

If the adjective is followed by a plural noun, the article **a/an** cannot be used.

- They are kind people. (NOT They are a kind people.)
- John and Peter are close buddies. (NOT John and Peter are a close buddies.)

Add prepositional phrases to your sentences

By adding short prepositional phrases to your sentence, you can tell when or where something happens.

A prepositional phrase is a group of words that begins with a preposition. The prepositional phrase usually goes at the end of the sentence.

- He is **in his office.**
- He sat **under a tree.**
- There is someone **at the door.**
- The crocodiles snapped **at the boat.**
- Put the books **on the table.**
- There are many apples **on the tree.**
- A gang stood **in front of me.**
- The castle was heavily bombed **during the war.**

Writing sentences using other verbs

The simplest sentences in English take the verb **be**, but **be** is not the only verb in English. **Be** is actually a primary auxiliary verb. The vast majority of verbs in English belong to a category called **lexical verbs**.

- He works at a factory.
- I tripped over the cat.
- He fell off the ladder.
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